

SUBCHAPTER 16C - LICENSURE DENTAL HYGIENISTS

SECTION .0100 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

21 NCAC 16C .0101 LICENSURE

(a) All dental hygienists shall be licensed by the Board before practicing dental hygiene in this State. All persons desiring to practice dental hygiene in this State shall pass Board approved written and clinical examinations, as set forth in Rule .0303 of this Subchapter, before receiving a license.

(b) The examination requirement set forth in Paragraph (a) of this Rule shall not apply to persons who do not hold a North Carolina dental hygiene license who are seeking volunteer licenses pursuant to G.S. 90-21.107, or licensure by military endorsement pursuant to 21 NCAC 16G .0107 or .0108.

(c) All dental hygienists shall maintain an unexpired CPR certification at all times.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224;
Eff. September 3, 1976;
Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 2014; September 1, 2013; June 1, 2006; May 1, 1989; January 1, 1983;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2022; October 1, 2019.

21 NCAC 16C .0102 NO RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENT

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224; 90-226;
Eff. September 3, 1976;
Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Amended Eff. May 1, 1989;
Expired Eff. February 1, 2018 pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A.

SECTION .0200 - QUALIFICATIONS

21 NCAC 16C .0201 IN GENERAL

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-28; 90-48; 90-223; 90-224;
Eff. September 3, 1976;
Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Repealed Eff. May 1, 1989.

21 NCAC 16C .0202 STUDENT MAY APPLY

The Board shall accept dental hygienist applications from students currently enrolled in schools of dental hygiene. Applications shall automatically be denied if the applicant fails to complete the required course of study or fails a Board approved licensure examination.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224;
Eff. September 3, 1976;
Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 2014; June 1, 2006; May 1, 1989;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018.

21 NCAC 16C .0203 TRANSCRIPTS REQUIRED

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224;
Eff. September 3, 1976;

*Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Amended Eff. April 1, 2003; January 1, 1994; May 1, 1989;
Repealed Eff. June 1, 2006.*

SECTION .0300 - APPLICATION

21 NCAC 16C .0301 APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE

(a) All applications for licensure as a dental hygienist shall be made on the forms furnished by the Board at www.ncdentalboard.org and shall include the following information:

- (1) full name;
- (2) street address as of the date of the application;
- (3) permanent street address;
- (4) preferred mailing address for all information;
- (5) telephone number;
- (6) email address;
- (7) age;
- (8) date of birth;
- (9) place of birth;
- (10) citizenship or immigration status, with verifying documentation;
- (11) social security number;
- (12) marital status;
- (13) any other name by which the applicant was known in the past, accompanied by a certified copy of a court order of name change, if applicable;
- (14) all resident addresses for the past 10 years preceding the date of application;
- (15) the names, addresses, and phone numbers for two individuals to whom the applicant always provides the applicant's current address;
- (16) disclosure and explanation of any bankruptcy proceedings in which the applicant was a named party;
- (17) the license number, issuing state, and expiration date for all current drivers' licenses held by the applicant, and the issuing state for all drivers' licenses held in the past by the applicant;
- (18) the date of the applicant's previous application for examination by the Board, if applicable;
- (19) the date and type of any dental hygiene license for which the applicant applied in the past, if applicable;
- (20) if the applicant failed an examination administered by a dental board, the date of the examination and jurisdiction of the dental board that administered the examination;
- (21) if any dental board has refused to administer an examination to applicant, the jurisdiction of the dental board that refused to administer the examination and the date of the refusal;
- (22) the dates upon which the applicant has taken the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination, the location of each examination, and authorization for the Board to access the examination scores;
- (23) if the applicant failed the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination, the date of the examination that he or she failed;
- (24) if the applicant has applied for a dental hygiene license in any other state or foreign country, the date of the application and whether the license was issued to the applicant;
- (25) all employment held by the applicant for the past 10 years;
- (26) if the applicant was terminated from employment within the past 10 years, an explanation regarding the termination;
- (27) all dental hygiene licenses from other jurisdictions ever held by the applicant, including type of licensure, license number, and dates of licensure;
- (28) places of employment at which the applicant has practiced dental hygiene, including the name of the employer, the address of the employer, dates of employment, and the reason for leaving the employment;
- (29) if the applicant has ever been suspended or otherwise disqualified, or reprimanded, censured, or otherwise disciplined by any licensing board, professional organization, or while the applicant was holding public office, a written statement disclosing:
 - (A) the facts that formed the basis for the discipline;
 - (B) the date of the discipline;

- (C) whether the applicant appealed the discipline and the outcome of any appeal; and
- (D) the name and address of the authority in possession of records related to discipline;
- (30) if the applicant has ever been the subject of a complaint with any licensing board, professional organization, or while the applicant was holding public office, a written statement disclosing:
 - (A) the facts that gave rise to the complaint;
 - (B) the date of the complaint;
 - (C) whether the organization that received the complaint instituted proceedings against the applicant; and
 - (D) the name and address of the authority in possession of records related to the complaint;
- (31) if the applicant has ever been reported to the National Practitioner Data Bank or the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank, a written statement disclosing:
 - (A) the facts that formed the basis for the report;
 - (B) the date of the report; and
 - (C) the name and address of the authority in possession of records related to the report;
- (32) if the applicant has ever been dropped, suspended, expelled, or disciplined by any post-secondary school or college for any cause, a written statement disclosing:
 - (A) the facts leading to the discipline;
 - (B) the date of the discipline; and
 - (C) the school or college issuing the discipline;
- (33) if the applicant has ever been denied admission to any college or post-secondary school for a reason other than academic qualifications, a written statement explaining the reason for the admission denial;
- (34) if the applicant has ever served in the armed forces of the United States or any other country, a written statement explaining:
 - (A) whether the applicant has been separated from service;
 - (B) the nature of the separation;
 - (C) if other than honorable, the circumstances surrounding his or her release from service;
 - (D) dates of service;
 - (E) the facts leading up to any charges or complaints made or filed against the applicant while the applicant was serving in the armed forces, and the outcome of the charges or complaints;
 - (F) the facts leading to any disciplinary proceedings instituted against the applicant while the applicant was serving in the armed forces, and the outcome of the proceedings; and
 - (G) if the applicant was ever a defendant in any court martial, the facts giving rise to those proceedings and the outcome of the proceedings;
- (35) a statement of whether the applicant has registered under the Military Selective Service Act;
- (36) a statement of whether the applicant has ever:
 - (A) been summoned to court or before a magistrate for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (B) been arrested for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (C) been taken into custody for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (D) been indicted for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (E) been convicted or tried for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (F) been charged with the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; or
 - (G) pleaded guilty to the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
- (37) the applicant's high school education including the name, location, and period of attendance for each school, and the date of graduation;
- (38) any college or university education other than dental hygiene, including the name, location, and period of attendance for each school, and the date of graduation;

- (39) the applicant's dental hygiene education including the name, location, and period of attendance for each school, and date of graduation;
 - (40) a statement disclosing and explaining any current condition or impairment, including substance abuse, alcohol abuse, or a mental, emotional, or nervous disorder or condition, that in any way affects the ability to practice dental hygiene. For purposes of this Rule, "current" means recently enough that the condition or impairment may affect the applicant's ability to function as a dental hygienist as set out in G.S. 90-229(a)(4) and (13). If the applicant contends that the condition or impairment is reduced or ameliorated because the applicant is receiving ongoing treatment or participating in a monitoring or support program, the applicant may provide information regarding the treatment or program, and may include any verification demonstrating that the applicant has complied with all provisions and terms of any drug treatment program, or impaired dental hygienists or other impaired professionals program;
 - (41) a photograph of the applicant, taken within six months prior to the date of the application;
 - (42) a completed fingerprint record card and signed release of information form authorizing the Board to request a fingerprint-based criminal history record check from the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI);
 - (43) a copy of an unexpired CPR certificate; and
 - (44) if the applicant holds, or has held in the past, a dental hygiene license in any other state or jurisdiction, a copy of a National Practitioner Data Bank Report concerning the applicant that was obtained within six months prior to the date the report is submitted to the Board.
- (b) The applicant shall submit to the Board the notarized application form with all the information and materials listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, accompanied by the nonrefundable application fee set forth in 21 NCAC 16M .0102.
- (c) In addition to the requirements of Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule, the applicant shall request the applicable entity to send the following required information or documents to the Board office, with each document in an unopened envelope sealed by the entity involved:
- (1) proof of graduation from high school or its equivalent;
 - (2) the applicant's official transcripts from a dental hygiene program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;
 - (3) if the applicant is licensed in other states, a certificate of the applicant's licensure status from the dental regulatory authority or other occupational or professional regulatory authority, accompanied by a full disclosure of any disciplinary action taken or investigation pending, from all licensing jurisdictions where the applicant holds or has ever held a dental hygiene license or other occupational or professional license; and
 - (4) examination scores required by Rule .0303(b) of this Subchapter which shall include the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) dental hygiene licensure examinations.
- (d) The Board shall receive all information and documentation set forth in Paragraphs (a) through (c) of this Rule and the applicant's passing scores on all examinations required by Rule .0303 of this Subchapter for the application to be complete. Applications that are not completed within one year of being submitted to the Board shall be disregarded as expired without a refund of the application fee.
- (e) Any applicant who changes his or her address shall notify the Board office in writing within 10 business days.
- (f) Any license obtained through fraud or by any false representation shall be revoked.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224; 90-229(a)(4) and (13);
 Eff. September 3, 1976;
 Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
 Amended Eff. September 1, 2014; September 1, 2013; June 1, 2006; May 1, 1989;
 Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018;
 Amended Eff. March 1, 2020.

21 NCAC 16C .0302 CONSENT FOR BOARD INVESTIGATION

In making application, the applicant authorizes the Board to verify the information contained in the application or to seek such further information pertinent to the applicant's qualifications or character as the Board may deem proper. The applicant consents that his or her character and reputation may be inquired into, and waives any right he or she

may have to recover damages against the Board, any member thereof, or its agents, or from any person who answers a Board inquiry in good faith without malicious intent.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224;
Eff. September 3, 1976;
Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Amended Eff. May 1, 1989;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018.

21 NCAC 16C .0303 BOARD APPROVED EXAMINATIONS

(a) All applicants for dental hygiene licensure shall achieve a passing score of at least 80 percent on the Board's sterilization and jurisprudence examinations. Reexamination shall be governed by Rule .0311 of this Section.

(b) All applicants for dental hygiene licensure shall achieve passing scores, as set by the testing agency, on the examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations and clinical examinations developed and administered by Board approved testing agencies. The Board shall determine which testing agencies are approved based on the requirements set forth in Paragraphs (c) and (d) of this Rule.

(c) To qualify as an approved testing agency, the test-development or test-administration agency shall allow a representative of the Board to serve on the agency's Board of Directors and Examination Review Committee for the limited purpose of allowing Board input in the development and administration of the examination. When Board members offer to participate as examiners for examinations administered in North Carolina, the test-administration agency shall assign at least one of those Board members to each examination administered in North Carolina.

(d) To qualify as an approved testing agency, the clinical examination developed or administered by the testing agency shall:

- (1) include procedures performed on human subjects or an alternative method that simulates human subjects, including manikins, as part of the assessment of clinical competency;
- (2) include probing, supra- and subgingival scaling, and soft tissue management; and
- (3) provide the following:
 - (A) anonymity between applicants and examination graders;
 - (B) standardization and calibration of graders;
 - (C) a mechanism for post exam analysis;
 - (D) conjunctive scoring, which is scoring that requires applicants to earn a passing grade on all sections or areas tested and that does not allow weighted, averaged, or overall scoring to compensate for failures in individual subject areas;
 - (E) a minimum passing score set by the testing agency for each subject area tested;
 - (F) an annual review of the examination conducted by the testing agency;
 - (G) a task analysis performed by the testing agency at least once every seven years that surveys dentists nationwide to determine the content of the examination;
 - (H) a system of quality assurance to ensure uniform, consistent administration of the examination at each testing site; and
 - (I) a system of quality assurance that does not permit a dental hygiene instructor to grade candidates at any institution at which the instructor is employed.

(e) The Board shall accept examination scores for five years following the date of the examination. Individuals who apply for licensure more than five years after the examination date shall re-take the examination. Each applicant shall request the applicable entity to send the applicant's scores to the Board office.

(f) The applicant shall comply with all requirements of the testing agency in applying for and taking the examination.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224;
Eff. September 3, 1976;
Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 2014; June 1, 2009; June 1, 2006; May 1, 1989; March 1, 1988;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2024; December 1, 2022; September 1, 2020.

21 NCAC 16C .0304	OTHER REQUIREMENTS
21 NCAC 16C .0305	TIME FOR FILING
21 NCAC 16C .0306	EXAMINATIONS
21 NCAC 16C .0307	CLINICAL EXAMINATION
21 NCAC 16C .0308	SUPPLIES
21 NCAC 16C .0309	PATIENT
21 NCAC 16C .0310	REEXAMINATION

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224; 90-229;
Eff. September 3, 1976;
Readopted Eff. September 26, 1977;
Amended Eff. August 1, 2002; January 1, 1994; May 1, 1991; May 1, 1989; March 1, 1988;
October 1, 1986; January 1, 1983;
Temporary Amendment Eff. January 1, 2003;
Amended Eff. January 1, 2004; April 1, 2003;
Repealed Eff. June 1, 2006.

21 NCAC 16C .0311 REEXAMINATION

- (a) Any applicant who passed the written examination but failed the clinical portion of any Board approved examination shall also re-take the written examination unless the applicant successfully passes the clinical examination within one year of passing the written examination. The Board shall not accept scores from the written examination that are more than one year old.
- (b) Any applicant who failed the written examination may retake the written portion of the examination two additional times during a one year period and need not retake the clinical portion of the examination. The applicant shall wait at least 72 hours before attempting to retake the written examination. If the applicant does not pass the written portion of the examination upon the second reexamination, the applicant shall retake the written and clinical portions of the examination upon subsequent reexamination.
- (c) Any applicant who failed the written or clinical portions of the examination three times shall successfully complete an additional Board approved course of study in the area(s) of deficiency exhibited on the examination. Such applicant must send evidence of the additional study, along with the application, before being admitted for reexamination.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224;
Eff. September 1, 2014;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018.

21 NCAC 16C .0312 TEMPORARY LIMITED LICENSE DURING STATE OF EMERGENCY

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-28.5; 90-223; 90-224; S.L. 2020-3, s. 4.38; S.L. 2020-97, s. 3.20;
Emergency Adoption Eff. May 22, 2020 to expire pursuant to S.L. 2020-3, s. 4.38.(e);
Emergency Adoption Expired Eff. August 1, 2020 pursuant to S.L. 2020-3, s. 4.38.(e);
Emergency Adoption Eff. October 22, 2020 to expire pursuant to S.L. 2020-97, s. 3.20;
Emergency Adoption Expired Eff. March 31, 2021.

SECTION .0400 – LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD

21 NCAC 16C .0401	APPLICATION FOR EXAMINATION CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD
21 NCAC 16C .0402	TIME FOR FILING
21 NCAC 16C .0403	EXAMINATION CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD
21 NCAC 16C .0404	PATIENTS AND SUPPLIES FOR BOARD CONDUCTED CLINICAL EXAMINATION
21 NCAC 16C .0405	BOARD CONDUCTED REEXAMINATION

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224; 90-224.1;
Eff. June 1, 2006;

*Amended Eff. July 1, 2010; February 1, 2008;
Repealed Eff. September 1, 2014.*

SECTION .0500 – LICENSURE BY CREDENTIALS

21 NCAC 16C .0501 DENTAL HYGIENE LICENSURE BY CREDENTIALS

(a) An applicant for a dental hygiene license by credentials shall submit to the Board:

- (1) a notarized application form provided by the Board at www.ncdentalboard.org that includes the information and materials required by Rule .0301(a) of this Subchapter;
- (2) the nonrefundable licensure by credentials fee set forth in 21 NCAC 16M .0102;
- (3) an affidavit from the applicant stating for the two year period set out in G.S. 90-224.1(c)(1):
 - (A) the dates that and locations where the applicant has practiced dental hygiene;
 - (B) that the applicant has provided at least 2,000 hours of clinical care to patients; and
 - (C) that the applicant holds an active, unrestricted dental hygiene license issued by another U.S. state or any U.S. territory, and has done so without any period of interruption; and
- (4) a statement disclosing and explaining any investigations, malpractice claims, or state or federal agency complaints, judgments, or settlements that are related to licensure and are not disclosed elsewhere in the application.

(b) In addition to the requirements of Paragraph (a) of this Rule, an applicant for a dental hygiene license by credentials shall request the applicable entity to send the following required information or documents, in a sealed envelope or via secure electronic transmission, directly from the entity to the Board office:

- (1) the applicant's official transcripts from a dental hygiene program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association;
- (2) a certificate of the applicant's licensure status from the regulatory authority or other occupational or professional regulatory authority and a disclosure of all disciplinary actions taken or investigations pending, from all licensing jurisdictions where the applicant holds or has ever held a dental hygiene license or other occupational or professional license;
- (3) scores from:
 - (A) the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination administered by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations; and
 - (B) a clinical examination accepted by the Board based on the criteria set out in Rule .0303(d) of this Subchapter;
- (4) a report of any pending or final malpractice actions against the applicant verified by any malpractice insurance carrier covering the applicant; and
- (5) a letter of coverage history from all current and all previous malpractice insurance carriers covering the applicant.

For purposes of this Rule, "secure electronic transmission" means an electronic method of communication that ensures that completeness, integrity, and confidentiality of information are maintained during transmission.

(c) An application shall be complete when the Board receives all information and documentation set forth in Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule and the applicant's passing scores on all examinations required by this Rule. Partial applications that are not completed within one year of the date the first document is submitted to the Board shall be disregarded as expired without a refund of the application fee.

(d) An applicant for dental hygiene licensure by credentials shall pass the Board's written examinations in sterilization and jurisprudence as set out in Rule .0303(a) of this Subchapter. Applicants who do not pass either written examination after three attempts within one year in accordance with Rule .0311(b) of this Subchapter shall not be eligible for reexamination under Rule .0311(c) of this Subchapter and may not reapply for licensure by credentials.

(e) Any applicant who changes his or her address shall notify the Board office in writing within 10 business days.

(f) Any license obtained through fraud or by any false representation shall be revoked.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224.1; 90-229;
Temporary Adoption Eff. January 1, 2003;
Eff. January 1, 2004;
Recodified from Rule .0401 Eff. June 1, 2006;
Amended Eff. September 1, 2014; February 1, 2010;*

*Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018;
Amended Eff. July 1, 2023; March 1, 2020.*

SECTION .0600 – REINSTATEMENT OF DENTAL HYGIENE LICENSE

21 NCAC 16C .0601 APPLICATION FOR REINSTATEMENT

(a) Any person desiring to practice dental hygiene in North Carolina whose North Carolina dental hygiene license has been revoked, suspended, retired, or expired shall submit to the Board an application for reinstatement. All applications for reinstatement of a dental hygiene license shall be made on the forms furnished by the Board at www.ncdentalboard.org and shall include:

- (1) original dental hygiene license number and date of issuance;
- (2) full name;
- (3) street address as of the date of the application;
- (4) telephone number;
- (5) email address;
- (6) citizenship or immigration status, with verifying documentation;
- (7) a statement disclosing and explaining the nature, facts, and disposition of any matter where the applicant has ever:
 - (A) been summoned to court or before a magistrate for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (B) been arrested for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (C) been taken into custody for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (D) been indicted for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (E) been convicted for the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
 - (F) been charged with the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor; or
 - (G) pleaded guilty to the violation of any law or ordinance or for the commission of any felony or misdemeanor;
- (8) whether the applicant, to their knowledge, is under investigation as of the date of the application or has ever been investigated by the Board or any other licensing board;
- (9) whether the applicant has ever been a party to a civil lawsuit related to the practice of dental hygiene settled;
- (10) all dental hygiene licenses from other jurisdictions ever held by the applicant, including dates of licensure;
- (11) a statement disclosing all the applicant's dental hygiene practices, including:
 - (A) the dates during which the applicant was employed as a dental hygienist;
 - (B) the name and address of each employer; and
 - (C) the reason for the termination of each employment;
- (12) a statement disclosing and explaining any current condition or impairment, including a substance use disorder, or a mental, emotional, or nervous disorder or condition, that in any way affects the applicant's ability to practice dental hygiene. For purposes of this Rule, "current" means recently enough that the condition or impairment may affect the applicant's ability to function as a dental hygienist as set out in G.S. 90-229(a)(4) and (13). If the applicant contends that the condition or impairment is reduced or ameliorated because the applicant is receiving ongoing treatment or participating in a monitoring or support program, the applicant may provide information regarding the treatment or program, and may include any verification demonstrating that the applicant has complied with all provisions and terms of any drug treatment program, or impaired dental hygienists or other impaired professionals program;
- (13) two letters of character reference from non-family members;
- (14) a copy of a National Practitioner Data Bank report concerning the applicant that was obtained within six months prior to the date the report is submitted to the Board;

- (15) documentation of the applicant's completion of continuing education courses, as set out in the rules of Section .0200 of Subchapter 16I, in amounts equal to the number of hours required for renewal of a dental hygiene license; and
 - (16) a copy of an unexpired CPR certificate.
- (b) The applicant shall submit to the Board the notarized application form for reinstatement with all the information and materials listed in Paragraph (a) of this Rule, accompanied by the nonrefundable reinstatement application fee set forth in 21 NCAC 16M .0102(a)(3) and the renewal fees set forth in 21 NCAC 16M .0102(a)(2) and (b).
- (c) In addition to the requirements of Paragraphs (a) and (b) of this Rule, if the applicant is or has ever been licensed in other states, the applicant shall request the dental regulatory authority, or other occupational or professional regulatory authority of each licensing jurisdiction where the applicant holds or has ever held a dental hygiene license, to send to the Board office, in a sealed envelope or via secure electronic transmission, a certificate of the applicant's licensure status accompanied by a disclosure of any disciplinary action taken or investigation pending against the applicant.
- (d) An applicant whose North Carolina license has been revoked, suspended, retired, or expired for more than one year shall submit to the Board a completed fingerprint record card and signed release of information form authorizing the Board to request a fingerprint-based criminal history check from the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation.
- (e) An applicant whose North Carolina dental hygiene license has been revoked, suspended, retired, or expired for two to five years shall submit to the Board evidence of completion of refresher courses as specified by the Board. Refresher courses for an applicant whose license was revoked or suspended shall relate to the deficiencies that led to the imposition of discipline. Refresher courses for an applicant whose license has been retired or expired shall be specified by the Board taking into account the amount of time the license has been retired or expired and the applicant's level of experience.
- (f) An applicant whose North Carolina dental hygiene license has been revoked, suspended, retired, or expired for more than five years shall pass the American Board of Dental Examiners dental hygiene licensure clinical examinations before seeking reinstatement.
- (g) The Board shall receive all information and documentation set forth in Paragraphs (a) through (e) of this Rule and the applicant's passing scores on any examinations required under Paragraph (f) of this Rule for the application to be complete. Applications that are not completed within one year of being submitted to the Board shall be disregarded as expired without a refund of the application fees.
- (h) Absent a Board order stating otherwise, an applicant whose North Carolina dental license has been revoked shall not be eligible to:
- (1) apply for reinstatement for a period of one year after the effective date of the revocation; or
 - (2) re-apply for reinstatement for a period of one year after the Board's denial of the applicant's previous application for reinstatement.
- (i) An application for reinstatement that is received before the applicant is eligible to apply pursuant to Paragraph (h) of this Rule shall be disregarded without a refund of the application fees.
- (j) Any applicant who changes his or her address shall notify the Board office in writing within 10 business days.
- (k) Any license obtained through fraud or by any false representation shall be revoked in accordance with the procedures set forth in the rules of Subchapter U and Section .0500 and Section .0600 of Subchapter N.

History Note: Authority G.S. 90-223; 90-224; 90-229; 90-48;
Eff. September 1, 2014;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. January 9, 2018;
Amended Eff. June 1, 2025; September 1, 2020.